



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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Wheat, Barley and Oat Production Up

According to the Virginia Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Virginia wheat producers averaged 71 bushels per acre, up from last year's yield of 51 bushels per acre. Virginia wheat was grown on 270,000 acres, with 250,000 acres harvested for grain. Wheat production was 17,750,000 bushels, up almost 125 percent when compared to 2010.

Oat production for the 2011 crop year was 195,000 bushels, up 11 percent from the previous year. Eleven thousand acres were dedicated to oats with 3 thousand acres harvested for grain, down 1,000 acres from 2010.

Barley growers produced 6.16 million bushels of grain, up almost 92 percent from last year. Producers averaged 88 bushels per acre, up 21 bushels from 2010. Ninety thousand acres were planted in barley with 70,000 acres harvested for grain. Data for wheat, barley, and oats were based from survey of producers conducted in early September.

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Small Grains 2011 Summary

All U.S. wheat production totaled 2.01 billion bushels in 2011, down 9 percent from 2010. Grain area totaled 45.7 million acres, down 4 percent from the previous year. The United States yield is 43.9 bushels per acre, down 2.4 bushels from the previous year's record high but still ranks as the fifth highest on record. The levels of production and changes from 2010 by type are winter wheat, 1.49 billion bushels, up 1 percent; other spring wheat, 462 million bushels, down 25 percent; Durum wheat, 51.9 million bushels, down 51 percent.

All U.S. oat production is estimated at a record low 54.0 million bushels, down 33 percent from 2010. Yield is estimated at 57.5 bushels per acre, down 6.8 bushels from the previous year. Harvested area, at 940 thousand acres, is 26 percent below last year. This is the smallest acreage harvested for grain on record, surpassing the previous record low set in 2010.

All U.S. barley production is estimated at 155 million bushels, down 14 percent from 2010, and the lowest since 1936. Average yield per acre, at 69.2 bushels, is down 3.9 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.56 million acres in 2011, down 11 percent from last year. This is the lowest planted acreage on record. Harvested area, at 2.24 million acres, is down 9 percent from 2010, and the lowest level since 1881.

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